

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing an alternative delivery point code, the method comprising:

receiving delivery data corresponding to a delivery point;

determining, via a processor, if the delivery data includes a secondary element that specifies a particular location at the delivery point;

creating, via the processor, a normal delivery point code when the delivery data does not include the secondary element, wherein the normal delivery point code is used to sequence delivery to a location among different delivery locations; and

creating, via the processor, the alternative delivery point code when the delivery data includes the secondary element, wherein the alternate delivery point code contains the same number of digits as the normal delivery point code, wherein the alternate delivery code distinguishes is specific to the particular location from a plurality of locations at the delivery point and is used to sequence delivery to the particular location among the plurality of locations at the delivery point, and wherein the creating comprises:

calculating, based on the secondary element, one of a random number or a pseudo-random number and setting at least one digit of the alternative delivery point code to the calculated number; and

when the secondary element contains alphanumeric data, converting the alphanumeric data to numeric data; and

affixing the alternate delivery point code onto a mail item for use in sequencing delivery of the mail item.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the secondary element comprises at least one of a fractional number, a trailing alpha, a descriptor, and a secondary number.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating a normal delivery point code based upon the delivery data if the delivery data does not include the secondary element.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the normal delivery point code comprises the two right-most digits in a primary address number of the delivery point.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein creating the random number further comprises initializing an alphanumeric field with blanks and a numeric field with zeros, the three element alphanumeric field comprising a first alphanumeric element, a second alphanumeric element, and a third alphanumeric element, and the three element numeric field comprising a first numeric element, a second numeric element, and a third numeric element.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein creating the random number further comprises storing data associated with the secondary element in one of the three element alphanumeric field and the three element numeric field.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein creating the random number further comprises calculating a value S characterizeable by the following equation:

$$S = ((27^2) * (10^3) * (\text{the first alphanumeric element})) + ((27^1) * (10^3) * (\text{the second alphanumeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^3) * (\text{the third alphanumeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^2) * (\text{the first numeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^1) * (\text{the second numeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^0) * (\text{the third numeric element})).$$

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein creating the random number further comprises determining a remainder corresponding to the value S divided by a random prime number.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein creating the random number further comprises calculating a value R as the random number, the value R characterizeable by the following equation:

$$R = (\text{the remainder} * 2) + (\text{a normal deliver point code associated with the delivery point}) + 1.$$

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the random prime number is 47.

13. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the normal delivery point code associated with the delivery point comprises the two right-most digits in a primary address number of the delivery point.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the alternative delivery point code is numeric.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the alternative delivery point code comprises one of two digits and two alphanumeric characters.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for providing an alternative delivery point code, the system comprising:

a memory storage for maintaining a database; and

a processing unit coupled to the memory storage, wherein the processing unit is operative to:

receive delivery data corresponding to a delivery point;

determine if the delivery data includes a secondary element that specifies a particular location at the delivery point;

create a normal delivery point if the delivery data does not include the secondary element, wherein the normal delivery point code is used to sequence delivery to a location among a plurality of locations;

and

create the alternative delivery point code if the delivery data includes the secondary element, wherein the alternate delivery point code contains the same number of digits as the normal delivery point

code, wherein the alternate delivery code distinguishes is specific-
to the particular location from a plurality of locations at the delivery
point and is used to sequence delivery to the particular location
among the plurality of locations at the delivery point, and wherein
the creating comprises calculating, based upon the secondary
element, one of a random number or a pseudo-random number and
setting at least one digit of the alternative delivery point code to the
calculated number, wherein the calculating further includes
converting first numeric data in the secondary element to different
numeric data; and
a machine that affixes the alternate delivery point code onto a mail item for use in
a sequenced delivery.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the secondary element
comprises at least one of a fractional number, a trailing alpha, a descriptor, and a
secondary number.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the processing unit is further
configured to create a normal delivery point code based upon the delivery data if the
delivery data does not include the secondary element.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the normal delivery point code
comprises the two right-most digits in a primary address number of the delivery point.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the processing unit being configured to create the random number further comprises the processing unit being configured to initialize a three element alphanumeric field with blanks and a three element numeric field with zeros, the three element alphanumeric field comprising a first alphanumeric element, a second alphanumeric element, and a third alphanumeric element, and the three element numeric field comprising a first numeric element, a second numeric element, and a third numeric element.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the processing unit being configured to create the random number further stores data associated with the secondary element in one of the three element alphanumeric field and the three element numeric field.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the processing unit being configured to create the random number further calculates a value S characterizeable by the following equation:

$$S = ((27^2) * (10^3) * (\text{the first alphanumeric element})) + ((27^1) * (10^3) * (\text{the second alphanumeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^3) * (\text{the third alphanumeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^2) * (\text{the first numeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^1) * (\text{the second numeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^0) * (\text{the third numeric element})).$$

25. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the processing unit being configured to create the random number further determines a remainder corresponding to the value S divided by a random prime number.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the processing unit being configured to create the random number further calculates a value R as the random number, the value R characterizeable by the following equation:

$$R = (\text{the remainder} * 2) + (\text{a normal deliver point code associated with the delivery point}) + 1.$$

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein the random prime number is 47.

28. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the normal delivery point code associated with the delivery point comprises the two right-most digits in a primary address number of the delivery point.

29. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the alternative delivery point code is numeric.

30. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the alternative delivery point code comprises one of two digits and two alphanumeric characters.

31. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising a set of instructions which when executed perform a method providing an alternative delivery point code, the method comprising:

receiving delivery data corresponding to a delivery point;
determining if the delivery data includes a secondary element that specifies a particular location at the delivery point;
creating a normal delivery point code when the delivery data does not include the secondary element, wherein the normal delivery point code is used to sequence delivery to a location among a plurality of locations; and
creating the alternative delivery point code if the delivery data includes the secondary element, wherein the alternate delivery point code contains the same number of digits as the normal delivery point code, wherein the alternate delivery code ~~is specific to~~ distinguishes the particular location from a plurality of locations at the delivery point and is affixed onto a mail item and used to sequence delivery to the particular location among the plurality of locations at the delivery point, and wherein the creating comprises calculating, based upon the secondary element, one of a random number or a pseudo-random number and setting at least one digit of the alternative delivery point code to the calculated number, wherein the calculating further includes converting first numeric data in the secondary element into different numeric data.

32. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the secondary element comprises at least one of a fractional number, a trailing alpha, a descriptors, and a secondary number.

33. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, further comprising creating a normal delivery point code based upon the delivery data if the delivery data does not include the secondary element.

34. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, wherein the normal delivery point code comprises the two right-most digits in a primary address number of the delivery point.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein creating the random number further comprises initializing a three element alphanumeric field with blanks and a three element numeric field with zeros, the three element alphanumeric field comprising a first alphanumeric element, a second alphanumeric element, and a third alphanumeric element, and the three element numeric field comprising a first numeric element, a second numeric element, and a third numeric element.

37. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein creating the random number further comprises storing data associated with the secondary element in one of the three element alphanumeric field and the three element numeric field.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein creating the random number further comprises calculating a value S characterizeable by the following equation:

$$S = ((27^2) * (10^3) * (\text{the first alphanumeric element})) + ((27^1) * (10^3) * (\text{the second alphanumeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^3) * (\text{the third alphanumeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^2) * (\text{the first numeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^1) * (\text{the second numeric element})) + ((27^0) * (10^0) * (\text{the third numeric element})).$$

40. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein creating the random number further comprises determining a remainder corresponding to the value S divided by a random prime number.

41. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein creating the random number further comprises calculating a value R as the random number, the value R characterizeable by the following equation:

$$R = (\text{the remainder} * 2) + (\text{a normal deliver point code associated with the delivery point}) + 1.$$

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the random prime number is 47.

43. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the normal delivery point code associated with the delivery point comprises the two right-most digits in a primary address number of the delivery point.

44. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the alternative delivery point code is numeric.

45. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the alternative delivery point code comprises one of two digits and two alphanumeric characters.